

Weekly Disease Surveillance Report

2022 Reporting Week 51: December 18 — December 24



This weekly report is produced by the DOH-Okaloosa Epidemiology Section to provide situational awareness to community partners. Data is subject to change as additional information is gathered.

COVID-19 & ILI Trends

Influenza-like illness (ILI) in Okaloosa once again increased for Week 51 (current level: 6.41%; normal average: 3.0%) and continues to remain elevated. Please stay vigilant, review the weekly [Florida FLU REVIEW](#) for statewide information, and continue to promote vaccination.

COVID-19 levels have also continued to increase for Okaloosa. **Recommended actions based on current COVID-19 Community Level:** Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines. Get tested if you have symptoms. People may choose to wear a mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

MPOX

The CDC urges healthcare providers to be vigilant for patients presenting to your facility with a [characteristic mpox rash](#), which can resemble and coexist with sexually transmitted infections (STIs). It is important to become familiar with [identification](#) and be prepared for [specimen collection](#). [mpox testing is available through commercial laboratories](#). Approval for testing is **NOT** required from the Department of Health (DOH) if testing through a commercial laboratory.

If **UNINSURED** patients need mpox testing, please contact DOH-Okaloosa at 850-833-9065 for consultation. The state laboratory will receive specimens for uninsured patients that meet specific criteria and are approved for testing by the DOH. Approval for testing is **required** from the DOH if testing through the state laboratory and is based on clinical presentation, exposure history, and timeline.

Contact Us:

**Florida Department of Health
in Okaloosa County**

Epidemiology Section

**24/7 Disease Reporting:
850-833-9065**

Confidential Fax:

850-833-7577

okaloosaepi@flhealth.gov

COVID-19 Snapshot

Week 51 Community Level

COVID-19 Community Level	New Hospital Admissions per 100K Population (Past 7 Days)	% Staffed Beds with COVID-19 Patients (Past 7 Days)
LOW	9.8	1.7%

PREVIOUS WEEK COMMUNITY LEVEL: LOW

New COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days	Indicators	Low	Medium	High
Fewer than 200	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	<10.0	10.0-19.9	≥20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0-14.9%	≥15.0%
200 or more	New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	<10.0	≥10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	<10.0%	≥10.0%

Week 51 Community Transmission Level

COVID-19 Community Risk Level	New Cases per 100K Population per Week	% Positivity per Week
HIGH	80.2	14.7%

PREVIOUS WEEK RISK LEVEL: HIGH

Low	<10	<5.0%
Moderate	10-49	5.0 - 7.9%
Substantial	50-99	8.0 - 9.9%
High	>100	>10.0%

Community Level and Community Risk/Transmission Level are the color of the higher risk level for each of the two indicators. Data Source : CDC [Community Indicators at the County Level](#)



COVID-19 Fully
Vaccinated =
No Quarantine

COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 51: December 18 - December 24

COVID-19 IN OKALOOSA, CASES vs. VACCINATION

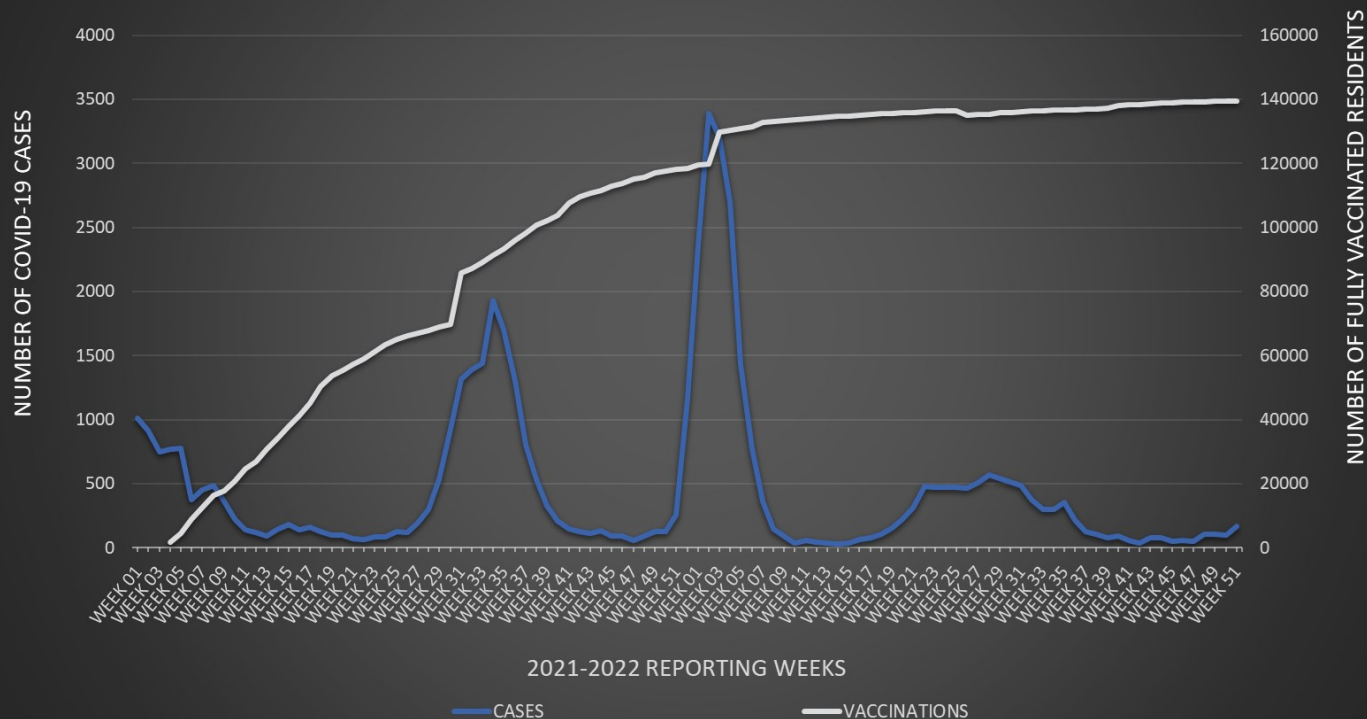


Figure 1: Cumulative number of fully vaccinated Okaloosa residents as compared to COVID-19 cases per week. Data reported through previous Sunday.
Data Source: Merlin & CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)

Week 51 Review		Difference from Wk50
Resident Case Count	169	+69
Resident Case Count per 100K Population	80.2	+32.7
Average Resident Cases per Day	24.1	+9.8
Percent Positivity	14.7%	+4.6

Data Source: Merlin Database

The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) provides the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with county COVID-19 data, including deaths.

Please visit the [COVID-19 Community Profile Report](#) webpage to obtain death data by downloading the most recent excel file and locating Okaloosa on the 'Counties' tab.

For questions related to COVID-19 death data, please contact the FDOH Office of Communications at 850-245-4111 or NewsMedia@flhealth.gov.

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS		
Fully-Vaccinated Groups	OKALOOSA	US
% of Population ≥ 5 Years of Age	70.8%	73.0%
% of Population ≥ 12 Years of Age	76.6%	77.2%
% of Population ≥ 18 Years of Age	79.3%	78.7%
% of Population ≥ 65 Years of Age	95.0%	94.0%

Data reported through previous Sunday. Data Source: CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)



Influenza-Like Illness

Week 51: December 18 - December 24

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) is defined as fever greater than or equal to 100°F AND cough and/or sore throat in the absence of another known cause.

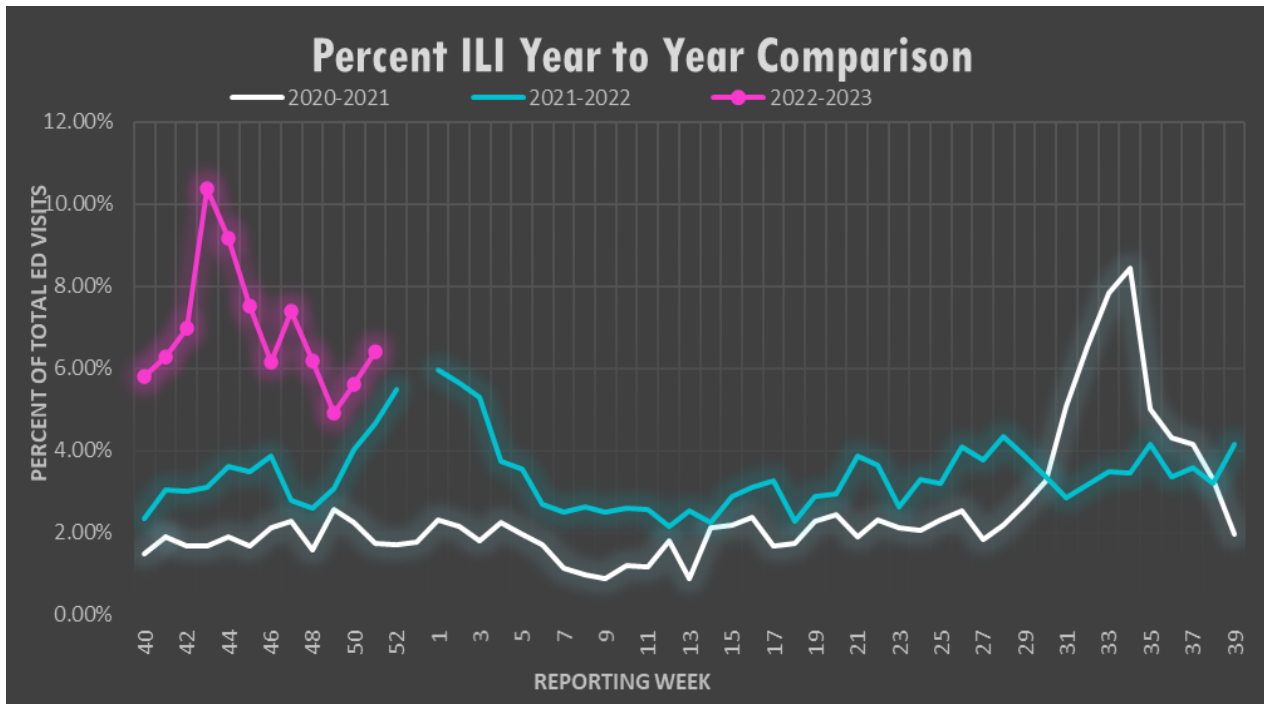


Figure 2: Annual comparison of the percent of all hospital ED visits due to ILI for Okaloosa County for the 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 influenza seasons by week. Data source: ESSENCE

ANALYSIS: During Week 51, flu reporting partners and ESSENCE (a syndromic surveillance system) reported an increase in ILI activity for Okaloosa County. The percentage of ILI ED visits in Okaloosa County increased from 5.62% during Week 50 to 6.41% during Week 51. Flu partners reported 29 positive rapid flu tests this week (24 Influenza A and 5 Influenza B). Over the past three weeks, 14 influenza specimens submitted to the state lab were positive (10 Influenza A H3, 4 Influenza A H1N1). There were no ILI admissions or deaths reported by flu partners this week. One outbreak has been reported in the past 3 weeks. The percentage of total ILI ED visits for Week 51 is higher than that of Week 51 last year. *Note:* Other respiratory syndromes can be represented by increased ILI case numbers. Data Source: ESSENCE

% ILI by Age Group Week 51, 2022

Age Range	ILI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total ILI Visits
0-4	40	206	19.42%
5-19	32	288	11.11%
20-34	29	460	6.30%
35-54	16	495	3.23%
55-74	17	508	3.35%
75+	10	287	3.48%

Data Source: ESSENCE

% of Total ILI Visits by Facility Week 51, 2022

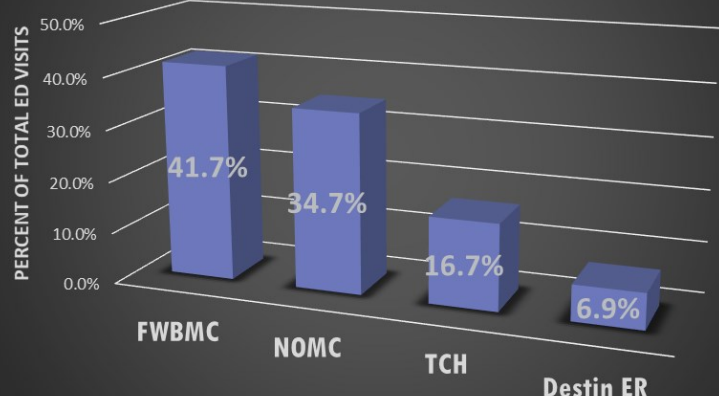


Figure 3: Hospital ED visits meeting ILI criteria stratified by facility. Percentages calculated based on total number of ILI ED visits. (n=144). Data source: ESSENCE



Syndromic Surveillance

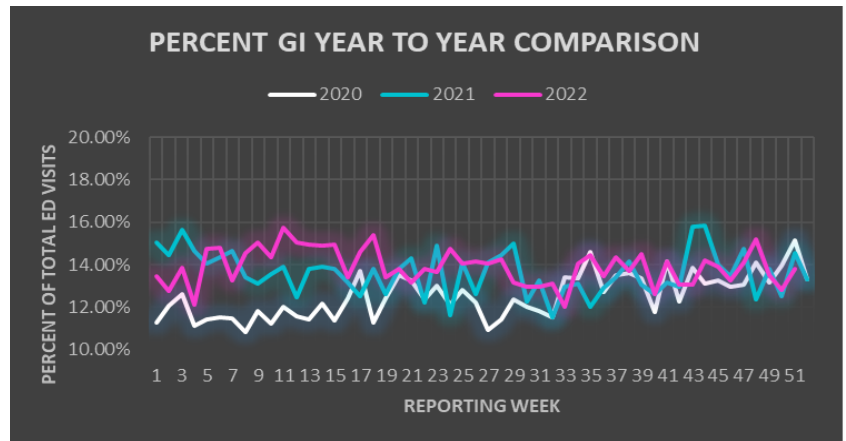
Week 51: December 18- December 24

Gastro-intestinal Illness (GI)

Figure 4:

Annual comparison for the percent of GI for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Data Source: ESSENCE

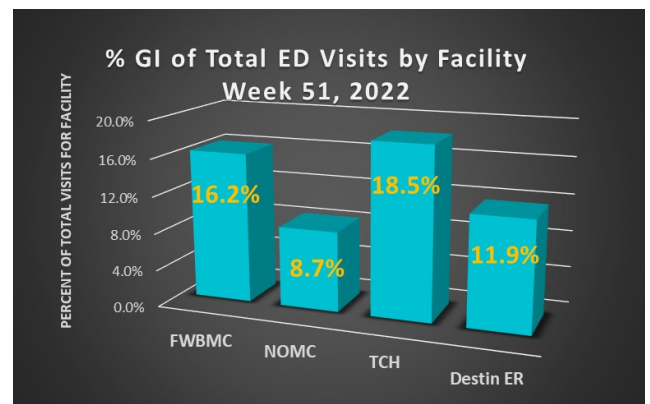


% GI by Age Group Week 51, 2022			
Age Range	GI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total GI Visits
0-4	31	206	15.05%
5-19	52	288	18.06%
20-34	72	460	15.65%
35-54	79	495	15.96%
55-74	51	508	10.04%
75+	25	287	8.71%

Figure 5:

Hospital emergency room visits due to GI illness stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE

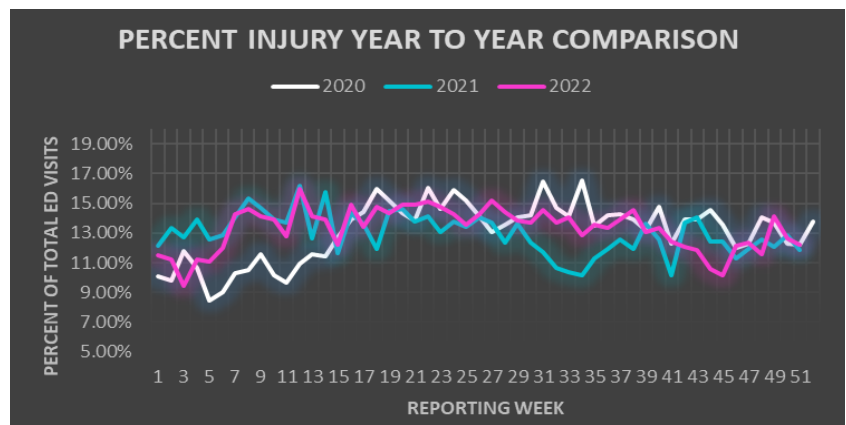


Injury

Figure 6:

Annual comparison for the percent of Injury for all Okaloosa County hospital ED visits week to week for 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Data Source: ESSENCE

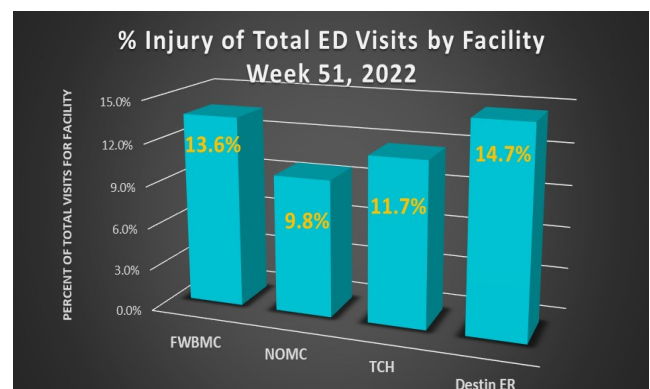


% Injury by Age Group Week 51, 2022			
Age Range	Injury Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total Injury Visits
0-4	20	206	9.71%
5-19	35	288	12.15%
20-34	67	460	14.57%
35-54	58	495	11.72%
55-74	50	508	9.84%
75+	44	287	15.33%

Figure 7:

Hospital emergency room visits due to Injury stratified by facility.

Data source: ESSENCE





Syndromic Surveillance

Week 51: December 18 - December 24

Total ED Visits by Syndrome

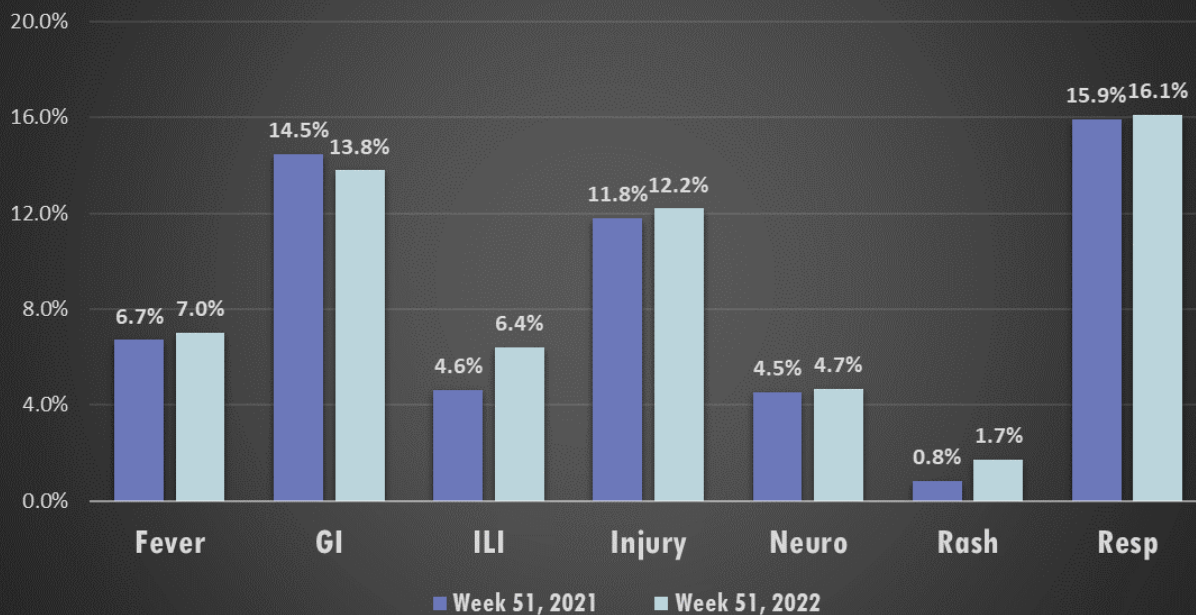
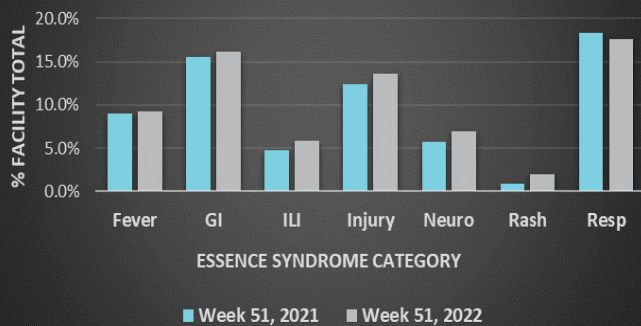


Figure 8: Hospital Emergency Department (ED) visits from 2022 Week 51 by select syndrome category. Percentages calculated based on total number of ED visits (n=2247). Some syndrome categories are not represented; therefore, represented percentages will not total 100%. Data source: ESSENCE

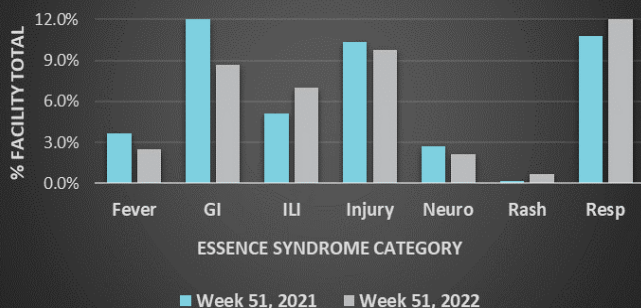
Fort Walton Beach Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 51- Fort Walton Beach Medical Center

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	41
5-19	RESP	43
20-34	GI	44
35-54	GI	33
55-74	RESP	32
75+	NEURO	19

North Okaloosa Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 51- North Okaloosa Medical Center

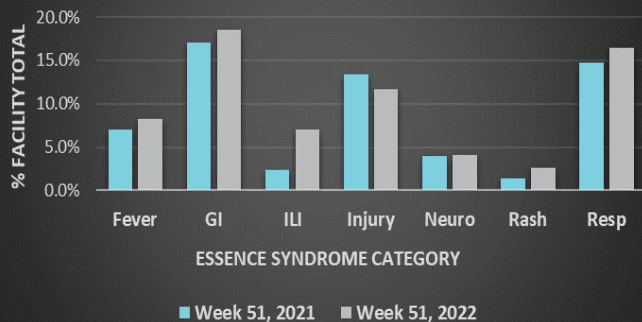
Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	16
5-19	RESP	22
20-34	INJURY	17
35-54	GI	18
55-74	GI	17
75+	INJURY, RESP	15, 15



Syndromic Surveillance

Week 51: December 18 - December 24

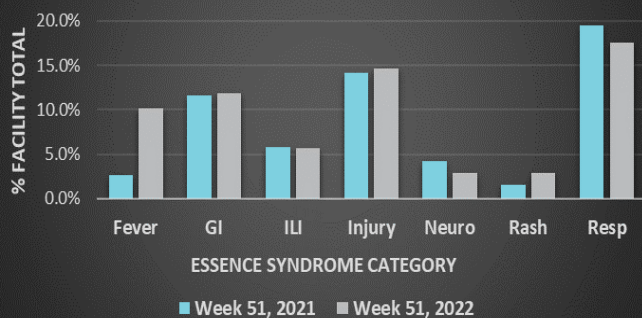
Twin Cities Hospital ED Presentations



Week 51- Twin Cities Hospital

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	9
5-19	FEVER, GI, INJURY	7, 7, 7
20-34	GI	13
35-54	GI	22
55-74	RESP	10
75+	RESP	13

DestinER ED Presentations



Week 51- Destin ER

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	8
5-19	RESP	10
20-34	INJURY	5
35-54	INJURY	8
55-74	INJURY	7
75+	INJURY	4

Week 51—Okaloosa County

Age Group	Top Syndrome
0-4	FEVER
5-19	RESP
20-34	GI
35-54	GI
55-74	RESP
75+	RESP



Data Source: ESSENCE